



**Commonwealth of Kentucky**  
**Communications Office of Lieutenant Governor Steve Pence**

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**For Immediate Release**

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**Lt. Governor Will Hold News Conference on Drug Assessment**

FRANKFORT, Ky. – Lt. Gov. Stephen B. Pence will hold a news conference Thursday in Frankfort regarding Gov. Fletcher's Statewide Drug Control Policy Summit Assessment Initiative.

The news conference will be at 4:15 p.m. at the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority building located on Airport Road in Frankfort. The building is next to the Kentucky State Police post.

The conference will follow the first meeting of the state, local and federal officials Pence has assigned to spend 20 weeks assessing substance abuse in Kentucky. The assessment team will meet at 2 p.m. Thursday at the KHEAA building. Lt. Gov. Pence, who is leading the assessment, will address the Summit members, and Gov. Fletcher will welcome them.

The assessment is the first in Kentucky to bring together officials in every area of substance abuse – drug prevention-education, treatment and law enforcement – to examine the state's substance abuse picture from each of those angles.

Along with illegal drugs, the Summit team is assessing inappropriate prescriptions as well as alcohol and tobacco use in the Commonwealth.

At the conclusion of the assessment, the group will offer recommendations to the governor on establishing Kentucky's first statewide drug-control policy. It will be designed to produce greater, measurable results in reducing illegal drug trafficking and abuse, eliminate duplication and gaps in services and ensure that the state makes the best use of its monetary resources.

During the first meeting, members will appoint subcommittees to conduct 16 public forums across the state to get input about drug use from citizens and local officials about the substance abuse issues in their communities.

For more information about the drug-control initiative, visit the Kentucky Drug Summit Web site at [www.kydrugsummit.ky.gov](http://www.kydrugsummit.ky.gov).

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